Hancock County
Mississippi Gulf Coast
The Other Katrina & the Gulf Oil Spill

Preparing for the Unexpected…
The Bay’s Hwy 90 four-lane bridge was its life-line to the rest of the coast. It was reduced to mere pilings by the storm.

In the days after the storm, the foot of the bridge was a cell phone “hot-spot,” one of the only places where calls could get out…sometimes.
NOAA SLOSH maps show that the entire south end of Hancock County on the MS Coast was covered with water - as far as 10 miles away from the Gulf.
The news media focused on New Orleans, cementing the public perception that Hurricane Katrina mainly affected the city.
Possible reasons why media coverage of the Mississippi Gulf Coast was overshadowed...

1. Population density
2. New Orleans is beloved around the world
3. The catastrophe itself was on-going
4. Sensational stories of violence and crime are thought to increase ratings - “If it bleeds, it leads.”
Author Ellis Anderson---Under Surge, Under Siege…

She thought the worst was over. She was wrong.”
The only word that came to mind was Hiroshima.
Devise a public/private partnership to chart the course and set funding priorities.
The Hancock Chamber has been around since 1925. Why do we need to start a 501 (c) 3 now?
Expanding Your Capacity

- Pre-Katrina Capacity
  - Executive Director
  - Book-keeper
  - Marketing Coordinator

- Post Katrina & Oil Spill Capacity
  - Executive Director
  - Assistant Director
  - Loan Officer
  - Communications Manager
    - Marketing Coordinator
    - Social Media Coordinator
  - INFINITY
    - Operations Manager
    - Sales Coordinator
    - Marketing Coordinator
  - Accountant
    - Accounting Clerk
  - Business Resource Center Manager
Hancock Community Development Foundation supporting 20 community funds
We are a Chamber.
We are NOT in the housing business.
We are now!
Thousands of homes closer to the beach---like my family home where this baby grand once graced the halls---no longer existed at all.
According to the N.O. Times-Picayune, a 2010 study by First American Corp., shows that a Cat. 1 storm could flood much of lower Manhattan, including Wall Street.

The article also points out that (adjusting for 2005 dollars) the great Miami Hurricane of 1926 still ranks first in terms of damage. The tidal surge for that storm was 15 ft.

No place on this planet is completely secure, although we will always wish for that.

Insurance continues to plague our full recovery.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 30, 2014


There are serious challenges created by the Biggert-Waters Act, which threatens to devastate economies across coastal and riverine America.
FEMA: Flood insurance increases could be delayed two years

By PAUL HAMPTON
jhampton@sunherald.com

GULFPORT — Last month marked a milestone in Evan Heidingsfelder’s life. It wasn’t his birthday or a graduation. Instead, January marked the 5-year-old’s last chemotherapy treatment.

Days after his second birthday, young Evan was diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia, a disease that
Taxpayers will be more in debt with flood-insurance delay

AN EDITORIAL OPINION OF BLOOMBERG NEWS

As taxpayer subsidies for the National Flood Insurance Program began winding down this year, coastal property owners began to complain about bigger insurance bills. With rates rising to reflect the true risk of living in flood-prone areas, some people’s annual premiums rose to several thousand dollars, from a few hundred.

Just as inevitably, then, Congress sprang to the rescue.

The Senate vote to delay changes meant to bolster the $1.3 trillion flood-insurance program was no surprise. If the House goes along, however, it will only assure that the program, already $24 billion in debt, will have to reach deeper into taxpayers’ pockets.

These subsidies go to properties that have suffered serious damage in past floods or are in flood plains — many of which are shoreline vacation homes. Although only about 20 percent of the roughly 5 million properties in the flood-insurance program receive the subsidy, the combined value of those that do ($527 billion) amounts to half the total value of all properties covered.

The subsidies have always been, at best, a well-intentioned mistake. Designed in the 1960s to reduce federal spending on disaster aid, the flood-insurance program quickly became a boondoggle that encouraged development on vulnerable beachfronts and sensitive wetlands prone to flooding. It is no surprise that some of the biggest opponents of flood-insurance subsidies, along with fiscal conservatives, are

Delivering the changes until 2018, as the Senate acted to do (by a 67-32 vote), is no answer. Four years from now, the same constituency opposed to ending the subsidies today will clamor for further delay. President Barack Obama has indicated that he opposes the Senate’s bill, though if it passes by a similar margin in the House it would be veto-proof.

A compromise is needed.

Rather than delay the start of phasing out subsidies, Congress should consider adopting a slower pace of rate increases, perhaps tracking the average length of homeowner insurance in a community. Unfortunately, the Senate has already rejected a proposal to limit premium increases to no more than 25 percent a year.

Federal and state governments should also investigate setting up well-funded catastrophe pools to help ensure the flood-insurance
"Award-winning schools & teachers..."
"84% of students are college bound..."
"Over $18 million in scholarship offers..."

http://www.hancockmsmyhome.com
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Hancock-MS-My-Home/715415031802802
Business Resource Center
Enhancing Small Business Development Support Capacity

Award Winning Programs
2012, 2013, 2014

Hancock Community Development Foundation
Charting the Path Ahead
We are the Chamber.
We’re not a bank.
We are now.

JOB
GENERATION
FUND
Create More Access to Capital
REGIONAL CDFI – Treasury Grant
Business Re-cap Grant

- $500,000 program
- Technical assistance training
- $3,814 reimbursements
- 117 businesses received re-cap grant

Business Re-cap Grant
$500,000 for fishermen
We are the Chamber.
Why are we pushing tourism initiatives?
Don’t sit around and wait for someone else to lead the charge.
Bay BridgeFest Spawns more Festivals

a vehicle for publicity & new business income

winner of two major tourism awards in 2012
The Bay St. Louis Second Saturday Artwalk attracts thousands to the town each year...
Improving major transportation corridors

Award Winning Scenic By-ways Program Goes Coast-wide
Four websites
21 social media platforms

http://www.hancockchamber.org
https://www.facebook.com/hancock.chamber

Communications
You may receive up to four messages weekly. Message and data rates may apply.
Bay St. Louis Harbor Project
Redevelopment of the Beachfront
Waveland Business Center opened and closed…
Four New Museums Emerged
HELP ON THE WAY

D.C. pair delivers love, supplies to Katrina’s survivors in Miss.

FEMA chief sat as hurricane pounded the Gulf Coast

N.O. evacuees hunker down at D.C. Armory

Senator Roger Wicker talks about the impact of the storm that smashed through the walls of her shared studio during Hurricane Katrina.

Those spared are grateful

D.C. tycoon: I’m innocent and broke

Rehnquist leaves behind legacy of conservatism

Don’t scream, ladies; it’s only football season

Rodi Salon & Spa
703.288.3880 • www.rodisalon.com

Will donate all of the proceeds from sale of June Irrelaal Mineral Make-Up & Esthesaeni Skin Care Products to the Red Cross Hurricane Relief Fund

Sept. 3, 2005 – Sept. 18, 2005
Bay St. Louis, MS

- Best Little Beach Towns
  *Coast Living*

- America’s Coolest Small town
  *Budget Travel*

- Top 12 Places you Need to Visit
  [virtualtravel.com](http://virtualtravel.com)

- 12 Beautiful Town Bargains
  *Budget Travel*

- Best Pleasure Seekers Paradise
  [officialbestof.com](http://officialbestof.com)

- 10 Most Beautiful MS Towns
  *Culturetrip.com*

One of the Fastest growing cities in Mississippi
$11 million in grants
The Chamber also manages Partners for Stennis. This active volunteer citizens group wants Congress and MS governmental leaders to know why they believe Stennis Space Center is so important to the economic future of our region.
NRDA: INFINITY Science Center

Estimated Cost: $10.4 million
NRDA: Hancock County Living Shoreline Project

Estimated cost: $50 million